



NORTH WALSHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Including the report of the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR 1968

MEMBERS OF THE NORTH WALSHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

as at 31st DECEMBER 1968

Chairman	Mr. J.T.E. Jones	*
Vice-Chairman	Mr. D.F. Norton	*
	Mr. F.C. Bailey	+
	Mr. R.C. Fiske	
	Mr. E.W. Harmer	+
	Mr. C.G. Hipperson	+
	Mr. C.G. Hoyte	(resigned from the Council w.e.f. 30.5.68)
	Mr. H. Linford	+
	Mr. J.E. Masters	+
	Mr. H.J.W. Osborne	+
	Mr. C.A. Pitt Steele	+
	Mrs. M.B. Prosser	+
	Mr. A.J. Powles	+(elected to the Council w.e.f. 3.9.68)
	Mr. N. Stanley	+

+ Member of the Public Health Committee

* Ex-officio member of the Public Health Committee

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER & RATING OFFICER

MR. R.V. NASH

OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. G.R. Holtby, M.D., B.S., M.R.S.C., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.I.H.

Surveyor & Public Health Inspector

Mr. G.O. March, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (resigned w.e.f. 31.5.69)

Mr. C.H. Carr, Cert. S.I.E.J., (appointed w.e.f. 1.8.69)

Deputy Surveyor & Asst. Public Health Inspector

Mr. A.E. Nicholson, A.M.R.S.H., Cert. Meat Insp.



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NORTH WALSHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
New Road,
North Walsham.

To the Chairman and Members of the
North Walsham Urban District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1968. The Registrar General estimates the mid-year population as 5,720 compared with 5,370 last year. There were 91 live births and 82 deaths, giving a natural increase of 9. There was thus a movement into the District of 341 people.

The birth rate was 15.9 per thousand population and the death rate 10.3. There were 91 live births of which 10% were illegitimate. There were two deaths under the age of four weeks and the same number under the age of one year.

It is a pleasure to record that once again there were no maternal deaths associated with childbirth.

A recent Office of Health Economics Publication, as reported in the "Medical News", emphasises that the over forty-fives have not benefited from medical progress to anything like the same extent as the younger age groups. The spectacular reductions in deaths from T.B. and infectious diseases have, particularly for men, been offset by increases in lung cancer and heart disease.

The age group 45 - 64 stand condemned, in many cases, of over-eating and smoking and of suffering from stress and lack of exercise. These are factors in coronary disease, and smoking also pushes up the lung cancer and bronchitis statistics.

The publication underlines the conclusion that if young people could be persuaded to abandon cigarette smoking there would eventually be a dramatic change in the patterns of illness of the middle aged.

The present trend of middle age illness and mortality is costing the country well over £1,000,000,000 a year and the biggest advance against this trend would be to tackle the question of smoking. "Cigarettes cause not less than seven times as many deaths every year as do traffic accidents. The abolition of cigarette smoking would be the greatest single contribution to the improvement of the public health still open to us" - Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health.

Few people realise that approximately ten working days are lost due to sickness and disability for every one lost by industrial disputes. A study in the U.S.A. has shown that cigarette smokers over all suffer one-fifth more days of absence for sickness each year than do non-smokers.

Smokers, in fact, are less fit for work and for leisure activities than non-smokers.

A survey in this country published in 1968 has shown that parents who smoke are far more likely to have children who smoke than are non-smoking parents. Similarly if parents are strongly against smoking, children are more likely to be non-smokers or to give up the habit if they start.

The safety of cigarette filters is unproven and the newer longer cigarette may be especially hazardous by increasing the smoker's exposure to harmful substances. The only sound advice is not to start smoking or to give it up, or, if one cannot give it up, to change to a pipe or cigars, as these are less dangerous.

As the Chief Medical Officer to the Ministry of Health has said - "The abolition of cigarette smoking would reduce Britain's death rate by one-tenth and the working time lost from sickness by much more. No other exercise in preventive medicine could do so much to help individuals and the Nation."

Obesity in children, as in adults, continues to be a problem. It is not desirable to make babies too fat and in some cases it may be that they are getting too much "solid" food too early. One local consultant paediatrician does not advocate mixed feeding until $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 months of age.

As has been recently reported in "The Lancet", during last winter the usual bi-annual measles epidemic was expected in Britain. The fact that measles notifications reached only a fifth of the normal epidemic level was almost certainly attributable to the vaccination campaign begun in the summer of 1968.

Members of the Health Department live a pretty busy life and most of their activities are, or should be, a form of health education, mainly by personal discussion. In the future, however, we shall probably have to spend more time addressing groups of people, and particularly in schools, on such subjects as the dangers of smoking, the prevention of obesity, food hygiene and sex education, etc.

As I do not meet members of the Council quite so frequently as formerly, I would particularly like to take this opportunity to thank them for their continued interest, and also to thank the staff of the Department for their support and for their work during the year.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant

G.R. HOLTBY

Medical Officer of Health

September, 1969

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area - 4,256 acres. The Urban District consists of the town of North Walsham with a surrounding district entirely rural in character which includes two small hamlets, namely Spa Common and White Horse Common. The main industries of the town are vehicle container-body building and food canning, together with light engineering works, a plastics factory and a laundry.

Educational facilities consist of the Paston Grammar School, the Girls High School together with a Secondary Modern School, a Junior School and two Primary Infant Schools.

The town is probably one of the most conveniently situated market towns in Norfolk and by virtue of its fine position, it is extremely healthy. The subsoil is of sand and gravel and the town receives the bracing air from the sea which is close at hand.

Population - the Registrar General estimates the population for mid-year 1968 to be 5,720.

Number of Inhabited Houses - from the rate book, the number of inhabited houses in the district at the 1st April, 1969 was 2,225 which included 615 Council houses.

The rateable value was £225,559 and the sum represented by a penny rate was £924.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	4,256
Population (Registrar General's mid-year estimate)	5,720
No. of houses in the rate book as at 1.4.69	2,225
Rateable value of all premises (as at 1.4.69)	£225,559
Sum represented by a penny rate as at 1.4.69	£924

	<u>North Walsham U.D.</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
Live births	91	
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	15.9	16.9
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	10.0	
Still births	-	
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	-	14.0
Total live and still births	91	
Infant deaths	2	
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births - total	22.0	18.0
" " " " " " - legitimate	22.0	
" " " " " " - illegitimate	-	
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births (first four weeks)	10.0	12.3
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births)	10.0	10.5
Peri-natal mortality rate (still births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	11.0	25.0
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	-	
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	-	
Deaths (all ages)	82	.
General death rate	10.3	11.9

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE & INFANT MORTALITY RATE

BIRTHS

	<u>ENGLAND & WALES</u>	<u>NORTH WALSHAM</u>
Live births (per 1,000 population)	16.9	19.1
Still births (per 1,000 total births)	14.0	-

DEATHS

Deaths (per 1,000 population)	11.9	10.3
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	18.0	15.8

Incidence of Infectious Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis)
during last 5 years

	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
Scarlet Fever	1	-	2	-	-
Measles	117	7	63	13	32
Whooping Cough	1	-	-	-	11
Pneumonia	-	-	-	1	1
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery (Sonne)	-	1	54	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	1	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	-	2	-	-
	121	9	121	14	44

MEASLES

32 cases of measles were notified during the year compared with 13 last year. Immunisation against this complaint became available during the early summer and there is no doubt that it is proving effective in reducing the incidence of the illness which in an unmodified form is frequently associated with severe complications, particularly those involving the ears and the chest.

WHOOPING COUGH

11 cases were notified compared with nil last year. The complaint is now seldom a serious one and immunisation must be responsible for this improved situation.

The schedule of immunisation in our Child Health Clinics has now been altered to the following :-

Immunisation against whooping cough, diphtheria and tetanus (the triple injection) at 4 months, 6 months and 1 year. Poliomyelitis vaccine is given by mouth at the same time as these injections. The increased spacing of injections eliminates the need to give a boosting injection at 18 months to 2 years while retaining the same efficacy.

We carry out smallpox vaccination in the second year of life and measles vaccination after the first birthday. "Booster" injections against diphtheria and tetanus with poliomyelitis immunisation by mouth are given at school entry and another tetanus injection on leaving school.

PNEUMONIA

1 case was notified compared with 1 last year.

FOOD POISONING

No cases reported.

The Public Health (Infective Jaundice) Regulations, 1968, which came into force on 15th June, 1968, made infective jaundice generally notifiable.

The Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1968, which came into force on 1st October, made certain changes in the list of diseases to be notified.

Leptospirosis previously notifiable only in certain areas, became notifiable throughout England and Wales.

Tetanus and Yellow Fever became notifiable for the first time.

Pneumonia, Acute Rheumatism and Puerperal Pyrexia ceased to be notifiable diseases.

INDIVIDUAL CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm- Lung, Bronchus	6	-
Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	-	1
Leukaemia.. .. .	1	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.,	1	1
Diabetes Mellitus	1	-
Other Endocrine, etc., Diseases	-	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	16	7
Other forms of Heart Disease	1	3
Cerebrovascular Disease	4	12
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	-	1
Pneumonia	3	6
Bronchitis and Emphysema	1	1
Asthma	1	-
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	-
Peptic Ulcer	1	1
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	-
Other Diseases of Digestive System	-	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	1	-
Congenital Anomalies	1	-
Symptoms and Ill-Defined Conditions	-	3
All other accidents	1	1

All Causes

43-

39

DEATHS FROM CANCER AND TOTAL DEATHS

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
No. of deaths from cancer	18	12	15	12	11	10
No. of deaths all causes	77	70	90	63	62	82
% of total deaths due to cancer	23.4	17.1	16.6	19.0	17.7	12.2

Cancer Deaths During last Six Years

Year	Male			Female		
	Total deaths all causes	Lung Cancer	Other Cancers	Total deaths all causes	Lung Cancer	Other Cancers
1968	43	6	2	39	-	2
1967	33	1	2	29	2	6
1966	29	2	5	34	1	4
1965	52	4	5	38	-	6
1964	36	3	1	34	3	5
1963	40	4	7	37	1	6

Deaths from Coronary Diseases - Angina - Ischaemic Heart Disease

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
No. of deaths from coronary diseases	11	15	19	13	14	23
No. of deaths - all causes	77	70	90	63	62	82
% of total deaths due to coronary disease	14.3	21.4	21.1	20.6	22.5	28.0

Deaths from Coronary Disease During Last Six Years

Year	Male		Female	
	Total deaths	Coronary Angina	Total deaths	Coronary Angina
1968	43	16	39	7
1967	33	11	29	3
1966	29	8	34	5
1965	52	12	38	7
1964	36	12	34	3
1963	40	7	37	4

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT FOR 1968
AND PREVIOUS YEARS

<u>Year</u>	<u>Birth Rate per</u> <u>1,000 population</u>		<u>Death Rate per</u> <u>1,000 population</u>		<u>Infant Mortality Rate</u> <u>per 1,000 population</u>	
	<u>England</u> <u>& Wales</u>	<u>North Walsham</u> <u>U.D.</u>	<u>England</u> <u>& Wales</u>	<u>North Walsham</u> <u>U.D.</u>	<u>England</u> <u>& Wales</u>	<u>North Walsham</u> <u>U.D.</u>
1968	16.9	19.1	11.9	10.3	18.0	15.8
1967	17.2	15.64	11.2	8.85	18.3	11.02
1966	17.7	15.74	11.7	8.62	19.0	27.39
1965	18.1	19.16	11.5	12.61	19.0	45.4
1964	18.5	16.33	11.3	10.6	20.9	13.7
1963	18.2	12.9	12.2	13.3	20.9	46.0
1962	18.0	13.7	11.9	12.0	21.4	NIL
1961	17.4	13.6	12.0	16.2	21.6	NIL
1960	17.1	14.3	11.5	12.5	21.7	NIL
1959	16.5	16.1	11.6	15.9	22.0	39.0

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

North Walsham Urban District is included with Smallburgh Rural District and Blofield and Flegg Rural District to form No.1 Area of Norfolk County Council for the purpose of carrying out duties for which the County Health Authority has accepted responsibility under the National Health Services Act, 1946. These include the care of Mothers and Young Children, Midwifery Service, Health Visiting Service, Home Nursing Service, Vaccination and Immunisation, Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care, Domestic Help Service and Mental Health Service. Some of these services, along with the School Health Service in the area, are the responsibility of the Area Medical Officer, who also acts as Medical Officer of Health to the three County Districts comprising No. 1 Area referred to above.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

Local Health Services under Part III

Home Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting

These are attended by two District Nurses and one Health Visitor.

Infant Welfare Centre - George Edwards Memorial Hall, North Walsham
(second Thursday each Month)

This centre is to be transferred to the
school dental clinic premises w.e.f. 9.1.69

A centre is established at the North Walsham Secondary Modern School for :-

Dental Clinic	6 sessions weekly
Speech Clinic	1 session weekly

General Welfare Services

With the departure of Mr. E.G. Hubbard from the Area on the 1st December, 1968, Welfare Services administered by the Welfare Officers became centred for the whole of Area No. 1 on the Local Health Office, Aspland Road, Norwich. Mr. C.J. Gallant is the Area Welfare Officer and has a team of three Social Welfare Officers to assist him. The North Walsham Office has been maintained as a contact point for the public. The Welfare Officers deal with the admission of aged persons to County Homes for the Elderly, either on a short term or a long term basis and besides dealing with admissions to Mental Hospitals they are responsible for the care of the mentally sub-normal living in the community and also of patients discharged from or on leave from mental hospitals.

As a result of the more enlightened policy of endeavouring to keep evicted families together where they are unable to obtain other accommodation, two units of temporary accommodation have been established by the County Council in North Walsham and have been occupied throughout the year.

Home Help Service

The Home Help Service is administered from the Area Local Health Office at Aspland Road, Norwich, and all applications for help under this service are addressed to the Area Welfare Officer at that office. It is hoped that before long the Home Helps themselves will be controlled by one of the County Council's lady Home Help Organisers.

Meals on Wheels

This service continues to function well and 24 meals are being served on two days each week.

Ambulance Facilities

The County Ambulance Service is operated by the County Council through the agency of the Norfolk St. John Ambulance Brigade and British Red Cross Society Joint Ambulance Committee.

Vaccination and Immunisation

These are carried out by the General Medical Practitioners and by Assistant County Medical Officers.

Laboratory Facilities

Facilities for laboratory investigations are to be had at the Public Health Laboratory, Bowthorpe Road, Norwich.

National Assistance Act, 1948 (Section 47) (Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention)
No action was necessary during the year.

B. C. G. VACCINATION IN AREA NO.1

This is offered to all 13 year old school children. 76% parents gave their consent, 22% refused consent and 2% did not return forms.

The findings during the year were as follows :-

Total number eligible	-	635
number tested	-	419
number positive	-	29
Tuberculin Index		7%
number vaccinated	-	390

TUBERCULOSIS

The following are the Mortality Rates :-

Pulmonary Tuberculosis Mortality Rate - Nil per 1,000 population

Non-Pulmonary " " " Nil " " "

NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING 1968

There were no new cases of tuberculosis notified during 1968

NUMBER OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS ON REGISTER AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1968

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Female</u>
31st Dec. 1968	41	12	2	1	13	13
31st Dec. 1967	13	12	2	1	15	13
31st Dec. 1966	12	11	2	1	14	12
31st Dec. 1965	12	11	3	1	15	12
31st Dec. 1964	11	10	3	1	14	11
31st Dec. 1963	13	11	3	4	16	15
31st Dec. 1962	14	10	3	4	17	14
31st Dec. 1961	12	9	3	4	15	13
31st Dec. 1960	11	2	9	4	20	6

IMMUNISATION SCHEMES

The following tables show the work done by the general practitioners and the Assistant County Medical Officer in 1968

Table 1 - Completed Primary Courses

<u>Type of Vaccine</u>	<u>Year of birth</u>					Others under 16	Total
	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964		
Triple	319	472	15	8	10	-	824
Diph/Tet.	-	1	1	3	5	-	10
Tetanus	-	3	1	-	-	12	16
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polio (Oral)	296	466	16	11	18	2	809

Table 2 - Reinforcing doses

Triple (DTP)	-	139	257	41	98	10	545
Diph/Tet.	-	-	29	14	624	274	945
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	7	12	19
Tetanus	-	2	11	4	24	131	172
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polio (Oral)	-	64	120	17	675	73	949

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Age when vaccinated	0 - 3 mths.	3 - 6 mths.	6 - 9 mths.	9 - 12 mths.	1 yr.	2 - 4 yrs.	5 - 15 yrs.	Total
Primary Vaccination	3	3	40	68	319	134	24	591
Re-vaccination	-	-	-	-	-	9	19	28

WATER SUPPLY

Source - all mains water is pumped from underground workings in chalk deposits at the southern end of the town. It is passed through Candy filters for the removal of iron and chlorination is carried out giving a residual of 0.2 parts per million. The water is then stored in two towers before distribution. Some isolated properties in the outlying parts of the district are supplied by wells.

The mains supply is augmented when necessary by the link watermain from Felmingham and a 3" diameter watermain from the Smallburgh Rural District serves approximately twelve properties in the Little London area.

Water supplied during the year

Own sources, underground:	Total pumped	60,169,000	galls	=	.164846	mill.gls.p.d.			
Bulk supplies taken		19,406,000	"	=	.053167	"	"	"	"
Total supplied, all sources		79,575,000	"	=	.218013	"	"	"	"
Metered supplies		24,808,000	"	=	.067967	"	"	"	"
Unmetered "		54,767,000	"	=	.150046	"	"	"	"

Unmetered supplies per head of resident population = 27.94 galls per day

Proposed New Source - under the direction of the County Public Health Engineering Department, work on a new trial borehole started on the 27th May. Although some initial difficulties were encountered, the trial bore was sunk to a depth of 400 feet and test pumping was commenced in October. This was carried out for fourteen days at a rate of 25,000 gallons per hour and the County Analyst's report on the water was entirely satisfactory so that in December the Council authorised the County Public Health Engineer to commence plans for development of this new source.

New Mains - During the year mains were laid to serve new housing developments at South Rise, Kendall Close, Meadow Close and a 6" main for use in conjunction with a sprinkler system, was laid to Messrs. Crane Fruehauf's trailer factory, the latter being on a rechargeable basis.

Water Sampling - regular sampling of supplies within the district was carried out for the purposes of bacteriological examination by the Public Health Laboratory Service. These were reported upon as follows :-

	<u>No. of samples</u>
Treated water in supply	24 (satisfactory)
Raw (Untreated) water at source	12 (")
Felmingham link main	12 (")
Little London (supply from Smallburgh R.D.C.)	6 (")
Shallow wells	20

Results of chemical analysis in parts per million

Ammoniacal Nitrogen - neg trace.	Hardness as CaCO ₃ :
Albuminoid Nitrogen - 0.01	Total - 315
Nitrate Nitrogen - NIL	Carbonate (temporary)- 230
Nitrite Nitrogen - NIL	Non-carbonate (permanent) - 85
Chlorion as Cl - 50	Alkalinity as CaCO ₃ - 230
Permanganate Value	Free carbon dioxide - 22
(4hr.27°C) - 0.42	
	Total solids(at 180°C) - 430
	Iron (total) - 1.8
	Metals in solution - NIL

Opinion "This water is of very good organic quality and there is no chemical evidence of pollution. The analysis as a whole differs only in minor details from that of the previous year. Provided the iron is removed by suitable treatment, this water should then be suitable for distribution as a public supply."

The mains water supply has been satisfactory in quality and also in quantity there being no period during the year when it was found necessary to impose restrictions or curtail supplies.

Water Statistics

Plumbo-solvent action	None
No. of dwellings supplied (direct to houses)	2,200
Estimated no. of population	5,720
No of dwellings supplied by standpipe	25 (estimated)
No. of population supplied by standpipe	60 (")
Total quantity of water supplied during 1968	79,575,000 gallons
Daily average of water supplied	218,013 "
Quantity of water supplied to Norfolk Canneries Ltd.,	13,705,000 "
Quantity of meterered supplies	24,808,000 "
(including Norfolk Canneries Ltd.,)	

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The sewage disposal works operated satisfactorily during the year and the final effluent field tests (using the permanganate method of testing) indicated a good effluent. The East Suffolk and Norfolk River Authority also took samples for analysis, the majority of which were favourably commented upon, although from January to March the prolonged cold spell appeared to affect the bacteriological content of the filter beds.

The removal of liquid sludge by tractor and tanker directly onto agricultural land proved a success. Local farmers co-operated well and it was anticipated that this method could be used to greater effect in subsequent years. From mid-August 1968 to early January 1969, this method obviated the use of sludge drying beds whilst the secondary digestion tanks were well cleared to accommodate the ensuing intake from January to April, by which time sludge beds could then be brought into use as required.

The vexed question of 'sewer smells' were once again investigated in detail. In the town centre it was found that gas mains were leaking and, judging by subsoil conditions, had done so for many years. The gas eventually escaped around surface water gullies and was immediately attributed to 'bad drains'. With the co-operation of the Gas Board, a survey of the town was made and similar leaks were found and repaired.

Chlorination of sewers continued throughout the year although reports of smells were still made from time to time.

Except for the rural outskirts of the town, which include two small hamlets, (namely Spa Common and White Horse Common) the district is sewered, but with the constant growth of both housing and industrial development, together with a new holiday centre, the need to cater for this growth has to be considered. With this thought in mind, the Council instructed their Consulting Engineers (Messrs. J.D. & D.M. Watson) to prepare a report which was ultimately presented to the Council early in 1968. The report suggests that with the completion of the new holiday centre and with natural growth of 100 persons per year, the existing sewage works will be working to maximum capacity in about three years time.

The report also produces a scheme for the sewerage of Spa Common and White Horse Common which is basically the first phase of a large scheme involving the use of intermediate pumping station to sewer the east and south-eastern areas of the town where present housing development is concentrated. The report was approved in principle by the Council, and it was agreed that the acquisition of additional land for further extensions to the sewage works should be embarked upon.

Pollution of Rivers and Streams - all sewage was treated at the Sewage Disposal Works up to six times the dry weather flow and no pollution of streams occurred during the year.

Night Soil Collection - a weekly collection was maintained by contract serving scattered properties in the rural outskirts, mainly at Spa Common and White Horse Common.

Public Conveniences - the conveniences at The Butchery and the Memorial Park were satisfactorily maintained during the year. Isolated complaints were attributable to vandalism and the dirty habits of a minority of the public and these subsequently lead to higher maintenance costs.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS, ACT, 1949

One part-time rodent operator is employed by the Council for the destruction of rats & mice, using methods & materials as approved by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Regular routine visits were made to all Council properties, particularly the refuse tip, and the sewers were inspected for evidence of infestation. All private dwellings were treated free of charge on receipt of complaint and business premises were dealt with on a "time and material" basis.

The following statistics (as required by the Ministry) show the actual number of infestations which occurred :-

	Type of property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in the district	2,459	63
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification.	57	-
(b) Number infested by (a) rats	57	-
(b) mice	-	-
3. Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification.	25	-

Collection and Disposal of Refuse

The collection of household refuse was carried out by means of an 18/27 cu.yd. Karrier/Gibson pendulum compression vehicle operated by a driver/loader and three collectors. It was necessary to use extra loaders on many occasions during the year in order to maintain a weekly collection service. All trade refuse was collected by a tractor and trailer and this was also employed for the weekly collection at the holiday chalet and caravan park.

It was anticipated that the establishment of collectors would be increased during the new(1969) financial year in order to cope with the increased growth of the town particularly in estate developments where house to house collection involves much time.

The Council have agreed that all their future housing developments will provide for either paper sack or bin liner storage of refuse, and I should like to advocate that trial schemes be carried out on existing estates using polythene bin liners. By this method, the collector will make one journey only to each house, at which time he will deliver a replacement liner and remove the existing filled one for subsequent disposal. In my opinion, this will speed up the collection period, give a longer life to the actual dustbin and provide a virtually dustless operation to both collector and householder.

All refuse was disposed of at the Council owned tip which is situated in an isolated rural area on the outskirts of the town. This disused sand quarry provides an excellent disposal point and will provide tipping space for at least the next twenty years. Further excavations using hired plant were carried out during the year, and it was possible to burn all paper etc., in order to effectively reduce the volume of refuse and subsequently conserve tipping space. The excavated soil was use for covering the consolidated refuse and existing small fir trees were carefully moved and replanted around the perimeter of the area to ultimately form a screen.

A working party formed in 1967 and composed of officers responsible for the collection and disposal of household refuse in Norfolk, met during the year and both my predecessor and I took part in the various discussions. The report on the findings and recommendations of this working party is expected to be published in the autumn of 1969.

Cemetery, Park, etc.,

The two cemeteries, the closed churchyard, War Memorial Park and various ornamental open spaces and grassed areas were satisfactorily maintained during the year.

A total of 40 burials took place during the year.

HOUSING

The following statistics indicate work during the year associated with the various aspects of housing :-

A - New Buildings

No. of applications for planning and/or Building Regulation consent - 240

No. of new houses completed during the year by Local Authority - 31
(24 flats & 7 houses)

" " " " " " " " by other persons - 76

No. of new houses under construction at 31.12.68 :-

(a) by the Local Authority - NIL

(b) by other persons - 33

B - Unfit Properties

No. of unfit dwellings closed during the year - 10

No. of persons displaced - 17

No. of families rehoused - 9

No. of unfit dwellings demolished in Clearance Areas - 8

C - (1) Improvements - Discretionary Grants

No. of Discretionary Grants applied for - 4

No. of applications approved - 4

No. of applications refused - -

(2) Improvements - Standard Grants

Approved during the year - 6

Paid during the year - 6

HOUSING

New Council Development

With the completion of the 24 flats and 7 houses, the old Dog Yard central redevelopment was finalised. This in conjunction with the Cedar Court flats (completed in 1965) provides a partial grouped homes scheme including a warden's house.

Improvements

A further phase of improvements of pre-war houses commenced late in the year at Buxton Villas which consist of 20 houses built in the early 1920's. Completion of these improvements is scheduled for late 1969, by which time it is hoped that a scheme for the remaining pre-war houses (141 in number) will be prepared and ready for tenders to be invited.

Private Development

A total of 76 private dwellings were completed during the year and is indicative of the steady growth of the town, and a further increase on the previous year's figures when 58 were completed.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection

There is one privately owned slaughterhouse licensed within the district where a total of 428 animals were slaughtered during the year. These consisted of 82 bullocks, 16 sheep and lambs and 330 pigs, all of which were inspected. The agreed days of slaughter are Monday and Thursday, except for public holidays, when amicable agreement is reached as to times of slaughter.

Three men were licensed by the Council for the slaughter of cattle, sheep and pigs.

The following table gives, in summarized form, information about the animals killed and the results of the inspections of the carcasses and offals :-

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	82	-	-	16	330	-
Number inspected	82	-	-	16	330	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses, of which some part or organ was condemned	14	-	-	3	55	-
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	17.07%	-	-	18.75%	16.66%	-
Tuberculosis only :- Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses, of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with Tuber- culosis.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cysticercosis :- Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised & totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

(a) Food Premises

The following types of premises are subject to the above Regulations :-

<u>Type of premises</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>No. complying with Reg.16 *</u>	<u>No. to which * Reg.19 applies</u>	<u>No. complying with Reg. 19</u>
Bakeries	4	4	4	4
Butcher's shops	5	5	5	5
Fish shops	4	3	4	4
Cafes, Restaurants and canteens	9	9	9	9
Grocers and General Stores	13	13	13	13
Licensed premises	11	11	11	11
Total	46	45	46	46

* Reg.16 relates to the provision of wash basins and associated amenities.

* Reg.19 relates to facilities for the washing of food and equipment.

Due to staff changes during the year, routine inspections had to be curtailed. Any infringements were brought to the attention of the proprietors and it was not found necessary in these cases to resort to strong action.

(b) Ice Cream Premises

There are 18 premises registered for the storage and sale of ice cream and a total of 12 samples of ice cream and associated products were submitted for examination by the Public Health Laboratory Service.

(c) Preserved Food Premises

There are 8 premises registered for the preparation and manufacture of preserved foods.

(d) Unsound food

All unsound food is dealt with on request and buried on the Council's tip. A total of 1,066 industrial cans of tomato puree were condemned and 213 lbs. of assorted foodstuffs.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses registered within the district.

Clean Air Act, 1960

No major troubles from air pollution occurred in the district during 1968 but concern was expressed during the year about the possible harmful effects of the emission of sulphur dioxide from a stack which might be provided for a treatment plant at one of the gas producers' sites at Bacton.

With the full co-operation of the Warren Springs Laboratories, a metering unit was established at the Council Offices and daily readings commenced late in the year and these were transmitted to the laboratory for analysis. With this information it will be possible to make comparisons after the Bacton Gas Site becomes operational.

Control of Camping and Moveable Dwellings

One holiday centre is licensed within the district under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. This consists of holiday chalets and a maximum of 85 caravans. The centre was well managed during the year and with its various amenities, provides an ideal development for the many visitors to the area.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964

A total of eleven dealers were registered in the district under the provisions of the Act.

Storage of Petroleum Spirit

There are twenty-four premises within the district which are licensed to store petroleum spirit and two premises are licensed to store carbide of calcium. All were inspected to ensure compliance with all the requirements.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for the purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

Premises (1)	Nó. on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	No. of written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	12	5	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority	33	5	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	5	5	-	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

<u>Particulars</u> (1)	<u>Found</u> (2)	<u>Remedied</u> (3)	<u>Referred</u>		<u>No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</u> (6)
			<u>To H.M. Inspector</u> (4)	<u>By H.M. Inspector</u> (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	1	-	-	1	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	1	-	-	1	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	-	-	2	-

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

There were no notifications of outworkers received during the year.

THE OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Table A - Registrations and General Inspections :

Class of premises (1)	No. of premises registered during the year (2)	Total No. of registered premises at end of year (3)	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year (4)
Offices	1	35	15
Retail Shops	-	52	17
Wholesale Depts. warehouses	-	-	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	1	3	3
Fuel Storage depots	-	2	2

Table B - No. of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises = 64

Table C - Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace :-

Class of workplace (1)	No. of persons employed (2)
Offices	97
Retail Shops	187
Wholesale departments, warehouses	-
Catering establishments, open to the public	14
Canteens	-
Fuel storage depots	7
Total	305
Total Males	117
Total Females	188

Table D - Exemptions

Part I	- Space (Sec.5)(2)	NIL
Part II	- Temperature (Sec.6)	NIL
Part III	- Sanitary Conveniences (Sec.9)	NIL
Part IV	- Washing Facilities (Sec.10)	NIL

Table E - Prosecutions

NIL

Table F - Inspectors - 2 (Part-time and in conjunction with other duties)

